



THE GRIFFIN

NEWSLETTER OF THE HISTORIC IRONWOOD THEATRE

WINTER 2014-15

For the past three years I have had the privilege of serving as the President of the Board of Directors of the Historic Ironwood Theatre. It's been an amazing ride and one I wouldn't have traded for anything.



HIT WELCOMES BETSY WESSELHOFT AS NEW BOARD PRESIDENT

To see the dedication of the many volunteers, the level of financial support from our loyal donors, and the tireless efforts of the fine people on the Board has been a truly rewarding and an eye-opening experience.

It is with enthusiasm that I embrace my new role as the President of the Board of Directors of our Historic Ironwood Theatre. Much has

been accomplished over recent years, and the staff and board are ready to build on this momentum.

From the folks selling popcorn, handling tickets, running the sound and lights, and performing the countless office tasks, many thousands of hours have been clocked as volunteers. None of the Theatre's functions could happen without these people.

To prepare for the future, we engaged in a dynamic strategic planning process guided by the superb leadership of Will Andresen. We now have a sharpened consensus vision of how we plan to shape our growth. We are excited about booking two major (think big name) shows a year, strengthening our role as a spark to regional development and learning more about you and what you'd like to see happening at the theatre.

Nearly three years ago we were able to hire Bruce Greenhill as our Managing Director. Bruce has proven to be a tireless Theatre leader and spokesman. We are fortunate to have him on board.

The first accomplishment from our planning process has been the hiring of a part-time Administrative Assistant. Carol Erickson brings a wealth of experience, top-notch organizational skills and great energy to this position. Her presence in the office will afford our talented Managing Director, Bruce Greenhill, additional time to focus on programming, networking and fund development. With the two of them working in concert with our dedicated Board of Directors, I'm confident that you will see new and exciting happenings at the theatre!

With the addition of an Administrative Assistant and our great office volunteers, the office is now even more efficient to better serve you and to perform the many necessary tasks needed to run the Theatre.

It takes money to run the Theatre and to all our donors goes a huge "Thank You".

I am pleased to turn the President's chair over to Betsy Wesselhoft. Betsy brings a wealth of experience, leadership, and people-skills to the position and I have no doubt that the Theatre will continue to move forward under her direction.

Thank you for being such dedicated patrons. It is humbling to reflect on your past generosity and exhilarating to anticipate your ongoing involvement and support as we experience the arts together.

Thanks to everyone for your dedication and support. It's been a pleasure.



Claudette's Christmas Card

Dec. 4, 6 & 7, 2014

Once again the Claudettes will kick off the holiday season with a Christmas Extravaganza. Singers, dancers, choirs and bands will join the Claudettes for a celebration of holiday cheer. Santa and Mrs. Claus will be there to create some holiday magic which will delight young and old alike. Ho, ho, ho!



Fri. - Sun. Dec. 4-7, 2014 Annual Holiday Auction



Our 8th silent auction fundraiser, featuring items donated by the Ironwood Theatre community. Come on in and make a bid or two. Get a jump start on your holiday shopping and support a very worthy cause in the process! If the auction banner is hanging from the Theatre marquee the auction is open for business.



Jack Frost Festival

Fri. Dec. 5, 2014 @ 6:00 PM

Gogebic Range Band
in concert after Jack Frost Parade
@ around 7:30 PM



WELCOME CAROL



We are delighted to announce the recent appointment of Carol Erickson to the (new) position of part-time administrative assistant. Many of you will know that Carol is one of our regular office volunteers, is an occasional usher, and also chairs the Holiday Auction committee.

Carol will be working just two days a week and her main responsibilities will be to take over many of the administrative duties currently being performed by our MD, Bruce Greenhill. "Given the efficiency and level of organization she brings to running the auction, we are really looking forward to working with Carol" said former board President Tom Williams. Carol's presence in the office will free up Bruce to get out and do more fund development work, grant-writing and seek out more cooperative programming opportunities. 📌

WHERE ART THOU, OH ORIGINAL TICKET BOOTH?

In our last Griffin we announced we were on the hunt for the original ticket box that used to be in the theatre entrance. We believe it might still be out there somewhere, gathering dust in someone's garage or pole-barn. If you know anything about the existence of the ticket box, or its current whereabouts, we'd love to hear from you! 📌



Sat. Jan. 3, 2015

@ 7:30 PM



A swinging trio of two jazz guitars and bass, built around the hot lead guitar and easy-going vocals of Steve Jones.

Sun. Jan 25, 2015

@ 2:00 PM MATINEE



Grandma's Boy was Harold Lloyd's first feature length movie. Lloyd plays his usual Glasses Guy - a coward who lets the neighborhood bully walk all over him and monopolize his girl's attention. His feisty Grandma gives him an heirloom lucky amulet claiming it will give him special powers. A silent movie accompanied on the piano by Alex Marciniak.

Sat. Jan. 31 2015

@ 7:30 PM



Songwriter, Musician, Entertainer, Poet, Historian, Radio Host and a Tent-show "Man of the Cloth" with a 40+ year show business career returns to the Ironwood stage. A Fairmont, Minnesota native, Warren was the founder of Lake Superior Big Top Chautauqua.



HIT HAS MANY HITS

What a start to our fall! The Youth Drama Club *Haunted House* was a resounding success, attracted 700+ visitors over two nights, many first-time patrons, and also brought back a few folk who had not been here in awhile. We heard many expressions of interest from volunteers who want to help stage next year's event, so the *Haunted House* promises to become a staple of our annual offerings.

Next came *HIT Idol* Season 4, featuring 48 local youth vocalists. The Friday night competition drew a full house – doors were closed 15 minutes before curtain and 35+ people were turned away. The following night saw our young singers opening for *American Idol*® finalist *Naima Adedapo*. Naima's messages of self acceptance and pursuing dreams resonated with both the young performers and the many volunteers who worked tirelessly to provide the vehicle through which our young folk were encouraged to find their voices. The highlight of the evening for our young winners came when Naima invited them to open for one of her Milwaukee shows next year!



Next up is *A Claudette's Christmas Card*, and we again expect big houses for this variety show – always a holiday favorite.

Of course, none of the successes we have here at HIT would be possible without our volunteers and to each of them I say thank-you. Our board, volunteers and tiny staff (in number, not stature) share a passion for this theatre – what it's been, what it is, and what it can be. It is truly a joy to come to work every day to a place where I am surrounded by such giving people, all of whom share a dream. If you have that same passion, and wish to be part of helping us realize the dream, we'd love to hear from you!

Bruce Greenhill, Managing Director



Snap this QR code to stay connected to the Theatre's website and upcoming winter events.

TICKETS

THEATRE BOX OFFICE

Open: Wed -Friday Noon - 4:30 PM

906-932-0618

DAY OF SHOW

Available on the Concourse one hour before showtime

ONLINE: www.ironwoodtheatre.net



PayPal

EMAIL: info@ironwoodtheatre.net



IRONWOOD THEATRE, INC.

PO Box 187

IRONWOOD MI 49938

Return Address Requested

VOLUNTEER. THOSE WHO CAN DO. THOSE WHO CAN DO MORE..VOLUNTEER.

DOES THIS INTEREST YOU?

SOUND & LIGHTING TECH TRAINING @ HIT

Ever fancied yourself as a lighting or sound operator? Here is your chance to learn how. HIT is currently in need of a couple of volunteers to look after sound and lights at various shows. Let us know if you are interested and we'll set up some 1:1 training for you. 🎧



Photo Credits: Ar Schneller, Kevin Schneller, Sandy Sharp